

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 EB-07 PRS-01

RSC-01 SP-02 /047 W

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P R 031730Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4499

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ROCKEFELLER, DAVID)

SUBJ: ROCKEFELLER VISIT TO MOROCCO

1. SUMMARY: ROCKEFELLER, WHO ENJOYS LONGSTANDING FRIENDSHIPS WITH KING AND WITH BMCE PRESIDENT BENJELLOUN, RECEIVED EXCEPTIONALLY WARM RECEPTION IN MOROCCO. END SUMMARY.

2. ROCKEFELLER PLANE DELIBERATELY ARRIVED HALF HOUR LATE ALLOWING AMBASSADOR TO SEE OFF NEWSTOUR BEFORE ARRIVAL NEW GROUP AND THEREBY GREATLY SIMPLIFYING TIGHT MORNING SCHEDULE. ROCKEFELLER AND PARTY BRIEFED AT EMBASSY ON RECENT LOCAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. AMBASSADOR THEN ACCOMPANIED HIM TO MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER, WHERE MR. ROCKEFELLER RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM KING (WHOSE CONVALESCENCE PREVENTED PLANNED GOLF GAME AND PERSONAL VISIT). FOLLOWING THIS, ROCKEFELLER GROUP HAD SHORT

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PRIVATE BUSINESS TALK WITH ABDELMAJID BENJELLOUN, PRESIDENT

OF BANQUE MAROCAINE POUR LE COMMERCE EXTERIEUR. NEXT CAME LUNCH WITH GENERAL MOULAY HAFID AND FINANCE, FOREIGN AND INFORMATION MINISTERS, GOVERNOR BANK OF MOROCCO, SENIOR ECONOMIC OFFICIALS AND LEADING BUSINESSMEN. AFTERNOON SPENT LARGELY WITH MINFIN FOLLOWED BY BRIEFER CALL ON FONMIN. DAY ENDED WITH EXTRAORDINARY GALA DINNER IN CASABLANCA AT HOME ABDELMAJID BENJELLOUN. VIRTUALLY ALL CONTACTS OF DAY PRESENT EXCEPT PRIME MINISTER AND GENERAL MOULAY HAFID, PLUS LARGE REPRESENTATION FROM CASABLANCA BUSINESS COMMUNITY. DINNER CHARACTERIZED BY EVIDENT WARMTH OF LONGSTANDING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ROCKEFELLER AND BENJELLOUN DATING BACK TO DAYS OF NORTH AFRICAN LIBERATION DURING WWII WHEN ROCKEFELLER VISITED MOROCCO AS YOUNG LIEUTENANT.

3. COMING DAY AFTER TIME NEWSTOUR GROUP, ROCKEFELLER TRIP RECEIVED JOINT HEADLINE IN PRESS WHICH REFERRED TO "EXTRA-ORDINARY LEVEL OF US BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN MOROCCO IN RECENT DAYS" (I.E. BOEING DEMO FLIGHT, NEWSTOUR, AND ROCKEFELLER VISIT ALL COMING IN THREE SEQUENTIAL DAYS). AFTER SERIES OF HEADLINE TRIPS OF LEADING GOM ECONOMIC MINISTERS TO MOSCOW, PARIS, AND BONN, WAS USEFUL TO HAVE HAD THIS WAY TO NOTE CONTINUING US BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN MOROCCO.

4. GROUP LEFT UNEVENTFULLY SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 9:45 A.M. WITH AMBASSADOR ABOARD. CHASE BANK TEAM REMAINS FOR BUSINESS TALKS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3. EMBASSY ASSISTING WITH DATA AND APPOINTMENTS.

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